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COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF
OUTER SPACE

INFORMATION FURNISHED IN CONFORMITY WITH THE CONVENTION
ON REGISTRATION OF OBJECTS LAUNCHED INTO OUTER SPACE

Letter dated 24 January 1980 from the Director-General of the
European Space Agency addressed to the Secretary-General

The information required under article IV of the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space is as follows:

(1) The third stage of the ARIANE L01 launch vehicle:

- Appropriate designator or registration number of the space object: ESA/79/1;
- Date and territory or location of launch: 24 December 1979, Kourou (French Guiana);
- Basic orbital parameters:
  - (i) Nodal period: 630 minutes
  - (ii) Inclination: 17.6°
  - (iii) Apogee: 36 021 km
  - (iv) Perigee: 200.8 km
- General function of the space object: third stage of the ARIANE L01 launch vehicle.

(2) The technological capsule (CAT):

- Appropriate designator or registration number of the space object: ESA/79/2;
- Date and territory or location of launch: 24 December 1979, Kourou (French Guiana);
- Basic orbital parameters: as for ESA/79/1;
- General function of the space object: technological capsule.

The principal mission of the technological capsule (with ballast), which was equipped with batteries having a lifetime of approximately eight orbits, was to transmit back to earth technological data on the first developmental flight L01 of the ARIANE launch vehicle. When the batteries were exhausted, the capsule ended its radio transmissions, and it is now inoperative but still in orbit.